

Progress Report on Key Indicators

Updated results for the council's key indicators show that we continue to make significant progress toward reform. Newly available data allow results to be reported for seven indicators under questions 1, 2 and 3.

Highlights include:

Question 1: Are more Kentuckians prepared for postsecondary education?

- Figures for indicator 1.5, the number of college-level courses per 1,000 juniors and seniors, are calculated using two important measures: the number of AP exam scores of 3 or better (the score typically required to receive college credit) and the number of high school students enrolled at a Kentucky college or university. In 2000-01, there were 124.8 students enrolled in college-level work for every 1,000 high school juniors and seniors in Kentucky. This number rose dramatically in 2001-02 to 219.5 students. While the number of AP scores of 3 or better rose to 7,112 in 2002 (a 10.8 percent increase), the bulk of the increase for indicator 1.5 came from dual enrollment. In 2000-01, 4,554 high school students enrolled in a state-supported postsecondary institution. That number more than doubled in 2001-02 to 11,040. A significant proportion of the increase in dual enrollment occurred at the community and technical colleges. Using the traffic light evaluation system, the light for this indicator remains green, indicating the system exceeded the 2002 goal.

The light for question 1 as a whole remains yellow, indicating "some progress" in our efforts to prepare more Kentuckians for postsecondary education.

Question 2: Are more students enrolling?

- Undergraduate enrollment continued to increase at the statewide level, rising nearly 5 percent to 193,638 students in fall 2002. Undergraduate enrollment increased at nine of the public postsecondary institutions and at the independent institutions. Seven institutions (Morehead, Murray, Northern, University of Kentucky, Western, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, and Lexington Community College) exceeded their 2002 enrollment goals. Although the University of Louisville's goal is to decrease

undergraduate enrollment, their enrollment levels also increased slightly. In recognition of their contribution to overall enrollment levels, the University of Louisville has also been assigned a green light for this indicator. The systemwide light for indicator 2.1 remains green. In fact, the state exceeded not only the 2002 goal but the 2003 goal as well.

- Graduate and first professional enrollment also exceeded the 2002 goal for the system, rising to 23,127. Five universities (Eastern, Northern, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Western) exceeded their goals for 2002. The systemwide light for this indicator remains green. (Indicator 2.2).
- The percentage of GED completers enrolling in postsecondary education rose between 2001 and 2002. The proportion of 1999-2000 GED completers who enrolled in a Kentucky college or university within two years was 17.8 percent, an increase of nearly 8 percent over the college-going rate for the previous GED cohort. The 2002 goal for indicator 2.9 was 15 percent. The light for this indicator remains green, indicating that the system exceeded the 2002 goal.

Results are now available for eight of the nine indicators under question 2. Of these, seven systemwide indicators are assigned green lights, indicating strong performance under this question.

Question 3: Are more students advancing through the system?

- We have made progress in retaining more students – a key measure for continuing the momentum of reform. As we continue to provide access to all students, the council and the institutions have been working harder to retain them. According to the definition adopted by the council in March 2002, first-time students are considered retained if they return to their native institution, enroll in any other Kentucky public or independent institution, or graduate by the following fall semester. Between 2001 and 2002, the retention rate for the entire system rose from 65.9 percent to 68.3 percent. Retention rates rose at six institutions. Furthermore, Northern, the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, Western, and the KCTCS exceeded their 2002 retention rate goals. The systemwide light for this indicator changes from yellow to green, indicating good progress since 2001. (Indicator 3.1).
- The number of community and technical college transfers increased in 2002. The number of students transferring from the KCTCS and

LCC to any Kentucky public or independent four-year institution rose to 2,877, an increase of 5.3 percent. The public universities enrolled 2,409 transfer students from the community and technical colleges in 2002, an increase of 2.2 percent. The number of transfers at three institutions (University of Louisville, Western, and LCC) rose sufficiently to exceed their 2002 goals. While the number of transfers in to Kentucky State and the University of Kentucky decreased slightly compared to 2001, their levels remained above their 2002 goals. The systemwide light for this indicator changes from yellow to green, indicating good progress. (Indicator 3.3).

- Indicator 3.4 measures the average number of credit hours transferred by students transferring from the KCTCS and LCC to a public university. The goal for this indicator is for the average hours to increase or remain steady. 2002 results show that the average number of credits transferred decreased at both the KCTCS and LCC. The light for indicator 3.4 is red, indicating no progress.

The system continues to make good overall progress in advancing students. Results are available for five systemwide indicators under question 3; four of these indicators are assigned green lights.

Both the system and individual institutions have exceeded many of the goals established for 2002 and beyond. Over the next several months, the council staff will work with the institutions to develop recommendations for new goals that reflect the strong performance in 2002.

More detailed information - including results by institution and an updated traffic light report – can be found below:

[Institutional Traffic Light](#)
[System Traffic Light](#)
[Average Number of Credit Hours Transferred](#)

Staff preparation by Christina Whitfield